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A. L. A. PUBLISHING BOARD

Hotel La Salle, Chicago, Ill.

December 29, 1915

Present: Messrs. Legler, Bostwick and Dudgeon.

The report of the Treasurer for the year 1915 was read and accepted.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

January 1-December 31, 1915

Receipts

Balance, Union Trust Company, Chicago, January 1, 1915		$ 1,100.21
Sales of publications		12,967.02
American Library Association, Carnegie Fund income		4,500.00
Interest on bank balance, January to December, 1915		4.24
		$18,571.47

Expenditures

Checks No. 64 to 75 (Vouchers No. 1426 to 1688)	$17,551.20	
Distributed as follows:		
Salaries	$4,600.08	
Publications	7,241.44	
Supplies	388.07	
Postage and express	1,142.50	
Advertising	457.75	
Incidentals	882.00	
Travel	339.36	
A. L. A. appropriation to headquarters expense	2,500.00	17,551.20
Balance, Union Trust Co.		$ 1,020.27
G. B. Utley, balance, National Bank of the Republic		250.00
		$ 1,270.27

Respectfully submitted,

Chicago, December 27, 1915. C. B. Roden, Treasurer.

The following budget was adopted for 1916:

BUDGET 1916

Estimated Income

Balance, December 31, 1915	$ 1,270.27
Carnegie Endowment Fund, interest	4,300.00
Sales of publications	11,000.00
Accounts receivable, December 27, 1915	1,340.25
Sale of books—review copies	900.00
	$18,810.52

Estimated Expenditures

			Expended 1915
Salaries		$ 4,600.00	$4,600.00
Printing Booklist and Index		2,000.00	1,901.81
Periodical cards:			
Printing	$800.00		651.07
Editing	150.00		138.05
Clerical	50.00	1,000.00	36.60
Advertising		500.00	457.75
A. L. A. appropriation, 1916		2,500.00	2,500.00
Express and postage		1,000.00	1,142.40
Supplies		400.00	388.07
Incidentals		700.00	583.54
Travel		500.00	339.36
Balance available for printing, publications, etc		5,610.52	4,513.91
		$18,810.52	

Miss Massee presented an oral report on the progress and work of the Booklist.

The secretary reported that "Buying list of books for small libraries," compiled by Zaidee Brown and revised by Caroline Webster, was out of print and that the New York State Library were unable to supply additional copies, although they could still supply moderate needs in their own state. The secretary was authorized to take steps to secure either a new edition or some other similar work to take its place.

Various matters which came before the Board at its meeting at Haines Falls were reported on by the secretary.

(a) Miss Isom reported that Miss Harriet Wood would be unable to undertake the preparation of a pamphlet on county library work until spring at least.

(b) Mr. Wyer, chairman of the Manual committee, informed the secretary that the Committee had considered including a chapter on library advertising in the Manual and that this question will be reconsidered. The Board were of the opinion that Mr. Rush's proposed handbook on library advertising might take such form as to be suitable as a chapter in the manual if this met with the approval of the Manual committee.

(c) The Massachusetts Free Library Commission report that they have been delayed in issuing Madam Haffkin-Hamburger's "List of Russian books" but they expect to have it ready within a short time.

(d) The secretary reported that the editor of the periodical cards, Mr. Merrill, and himself had nearly completed the revision of the list of serials and that the list and the terms upon which cards can be supplied would soon be sent out to subscribers.

(e) Mrs. George F. Bowerman has agreed in response to a request of the Board to prepare a list of modern French books. This list to be chiefly books in the class of belles lettres fiction, etc.

(f) Miss Margaret Mann's "List of subject headings for a juvenile catalog" is now in press and will probably be issued during January.

(g) Mr. W. L. Brown, of Buffalo, informed the secretary in response to the inquiry of the Board that without doubt arrangements can be made for the Publishing Board to handle the sale of a part of the edition of the Buffalo Public Library's "Open shelf catalog," that, however, the catalog will not be issued for some time.

(h) Mr. Mattice and Miss Laws, of the Library of Congress, are proceeding with the preparation of a selected list of detective, ghost and mystery stories with the understanding that if the list meets with the approval of the Board it will be published by it.

(i) Mr. D. C. Buell, of Omaha, who had been invited to prepare a list of books on railways and railway operating at the suggestion of Dr. Bostwick has agreed to prepare such a list and hopes to have it ready in a few weeks.

(j) The secretary reported that the printing of short popular reading lists with a view to their being purchased in bulk by libraries with their respective imprints thereon has been delayed by press of other work, but that four of these lists are now being printed and will be advertised early in January.

(k) Mrs. Ledbetter, of the Cleveland Public Library, recommends to the secretary that the Bohemian list prepared by her be not printed at the present time in view of the impossibility of securing Bohemian books from abroad and because later the list is liable to require radical changes owing to altered European conditions. The Board agreed.

The secretary reported correspondence with Mr. H. G. T. Cannons, of Finsbury, London, author of "Bibliography of library economy." In reply to inquiry Mr. Cannons stated that appreciation of the Bibliography among English librarians did not seem to be such as to warrant the preparation of a supplement, upon which the secretary inquired whether Mr. Cannons would look with favor upon preparing such a supplement for issuance by the A. L. A. Publishing Board provided mutually satisfactory arrangements could be made.

Mr. Cannons replied that he would look with favor upon such a proposal and doubtless would be able to prepare manuscript, if desired, some time during the course of the year 1916. The Board was inclined to look with favor upon the subject and instructed the secretary to negotiate further with Mr. Cannons.

COUNCIL

December 29

The A. L. A. Council met at the Hotel La Salle, Chicago, Wednesday morning, December 29, President Plummer presiding.

The following 37 members were present: Mary W. Plummer, W. L. Brown, H. W. Craver, A. E. Bostwick,[1] M. S. Dudgeon, S. H. Ranck, W. H. Brett, E. C. Richardson, F. P. Hill, C. W. Andrews, J. I. Wyer, Jr., Henry E. Legler, E. J. Lien, A. J. Small, A. S. Root, Margaret Mann, W. W. Bishop, Mary Eileen Ahern, Alice S. Tyler, Adam Strohm, W. R. Watson, Effie L. Power, H. S. Hirshberg, C. E. Rush, Sarah C. N. Bogle, Grace D. Rose, Clara F. Baldwin, Josephine A. Rathbone, Mrs. Blewett Lee, Mrs. Harriet P. Sawyer, W. H. Kerr, T. M. Owen, W. N. C. Carlton, Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, and the following representing affiliated state library associations: Mary J. Booth (Illinois), Jeannette M. Drake (Iowa), and John S. Cleavinger (Michigan).

Mr. M. S. Dudgeon presented the following report on

FIRE INSURANCE RATES

I am thinking that this committee may somewhat resemble the committee on lighting and ventilation, of which it has been said that the progress of the science is farther ahead of the committee than it was two years ago and they are less ready to make a final report now than they were then. There are things in insurance that keep us from making a final report. The present report is to some extent a duplicate of the previous one[2] and will repeat to some extent the things that were reported upon a year ago. I think it will be unnecessary to read these details since they correspond to some extent very closely to what was read then with some slight variations.

The first section deals with rates, and the sum and substance of the subject is this: That the conditions vary so largely in different libraries that there seems to be only one bit of advice that the committee can give, which is that each library, because of the special nature of the risk, and the very low fire risk inherent, should use every effort possible to get a low rate, even getting, as has been done in some cases, a rate lower than the established rate in the community. This is due partly tc the isolation and the good conditions existing in the library and partly upon the ground that as the public library is a municipally owned institution it does not come within the rules of the Board of Underwriters and can be made an exception without creating a precedent which will disturb the general rates in the city. One or two large libraries have secured special rates upon that ground.

While some libraries have carefully framed policies fully covering all losses, other libraries have used the standard form which insures in very general terms but which contains a clause excluding much of the property usually found in a library. The printed portions of the standard policy expressly state that unless specifically mentioned the following articles shall be excluded from the loss: Awnings, casts, curiosities, drawings, dies, implements, manuscripts, medals, models, patterns, pictures, scientific apparatus, signs, store or office furniture or fixtures, sculpture, tools, or property held on storage or for repairs. In other words, there is a very serious question whether these articles enumerated would not be excepted and remain uninsured unless they are enumerated in

[1] Also represented Missouri Library Association.
[2] See Bulletin, 9:36 (January, 1915).